Control over Opium Production

853. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the Minster of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to have more effective control over opium production and sale of precursor chemicals used in the conversion of opium into heroin; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Production of licit opium in India is regulated under strict licensing control and supervision by the Central Government. The elaborate system of control involves 100% measurement of each plot, test measurement, constant monitoring of the crop conditions, daily weighment of produce and intensification of enforcement and vigil during cultivation, lancing and collection of opium. To further tighten enforcement in and around the poppy growing areas, 3 new preventive cells have been set up in Udaipur, Kanpur and Dehradun equipped with adequate vehicular support and communication network.

The export of acetic anhydride which is an essential precursor chemical used in the conversion of opium into heroin has been banned. Inn order to check its illegal export, acetic anhydride has also been notified under the Customs Act so as to attract special controls on its movement within the specified areas along the Indo–pak and Indo–Burma borders.

Bank Branches Damaged in Andhra Pradesh

854. PROF. UMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some branches of nationalised banks were damaged during 1991 in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated loss suffered branch-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). 28 branches of public sector banks are reported to have been attacked/ burnt in the year 1991. Branch-wise details of damage suffered and estimated loss are given in the statement attached.

(d) Reserve bank of India/Banks have taken following preventive measures.

(i) Reduction of cash holding in vulnerable branches;

(ii) Daily records to be duplicated and transferred to Regional Offices;

(iii) Pledged gold/valuables to be shifted to Regional Offices/ safer branches;

(iv) One set of keys to be kept with the police station after working hours;

(v) Joint custodian advised to stay away from Head-quarters; and

(vi) Effective alarm system fitted in the branches.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Name of Branch	Date of occurence	Nature of incident/ damage incurred	Estimated loss
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Bank	1. Akkupalli Distt. Srikakulam	13.14th April,1991	Old records, Stationery, Furniture & valuable documents burnt.	Rs. 50,000/- Approx.
		2. Ratnapur, Distt. Karimnagar.	25th March, 1991	Furniture and fixute destroyed.	Rs. 35,000/- to Rs. 40,000/- Approx.
		3. Narsingapur, Distt. Karimnagar.	17.18th September, 1991	Records and furnitures destroyed.	No cash loss.
		4. Challur, Distt. Karimnagar.	3rd December 1991	Branch Manager kidnapped and released.	No cash loss
		5. Malagapudi, Distt. East Godavari.	5th November, 1991	10 S. B. ledgers and furnitures burnt.	No cash loss
		6. Begumpet, Distt. Karmnagar.	6/7th December, 1991	Records and documents burnt.	No cash loss
2.	Corporation Bank	7. Neerkula, Distt. Estsnqal.	7/8th August, 1991	Only part of the furniture damaged.	No cash loss
		8. Mallavaram, Distt. East Godavari.	26/77th November, 1991	Furniture, wooden counter and statonery burnt.	No cash loss

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank		Name of Branch	Date of occurence	Nature of incident/ damage incurred	Estimated loss
1	2		3	4	5	6
3.	State Bank of India	9.	Kantatmakur, Distt. Warangal.	23rd April, 1991	Stationery, furniture and records	No cash loss
		10.	Pudimadaka, Distt. Visakhapatnam.	9th June, 1991	No loss of bank's property.	No cash loss
		11.	Kalwakurthy, Distt. Mahaboobnagar	7th June, 1991	No loss of bank's property.	No cash loss
		12.	Nizampatnam, Distt. Gantur.	6th May, 1991	No loss of bank's property.	No cash loss
		13.	ADB Wanaparthy, Mahabsobnagar.	5th July, 1991	Some articles missing.	No cash loss
		14.	A.P. Rayans, Kamalapuram, Distt. Warangal.	21st October, 1991	No loss of Bank's property.	No cash loss
		15.	Royapeta, Distt. West Godavari	9/10th November, 1991	Grills and cash-room doors damaged.	No cash loss
4.	Punjab National Bank	16.	B.O. Chennur, Distt. Warangal	6th August, 1991	Premises/doors and documents destroyed.	No cash loss

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Name of Branch	Date of occurence	Nature of incident/ damage incurred	Estimated loss
1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	State Bank of Hyderabad	17. Tandrial, Distt. Karimnagar.	13th September, 1991	Furniture, stationery and records burnt.	Loss estimated at Rs. 59,000/- (Approx.)
		18. Gundala, Distt. Nalgonda.	19th September, 1991	No loss of bank's property.	No cash loss
		19. Bhimavaram Jaipur Mandal Distt. Adilabad.	11th December, 1991	No loss of bank's property.	No cash loss
6.	Indian Bank	20. Paidimandugu, Distt Karimnagar.	4th August, 1991	Burning down of branch.	Approx. loss of Rs. 50,000/-
7.	Syndicate Bank	21. Vempet, Distt. Karimnagar.	13th September, 1991	Burning down of branch.	N.A.
8.	Central Bank of India	22 Kalavikundu, Distt. Medak.	4th March, 1991	Burning down of branch.	Estimated loss of Rs. 50,000/-
9.	Andhra Bank	23. Gonti, Distt. Medhak.		N.A.	
10.	Bank of Baroda	24. Zaffargadh.	1st August, 1991	Damage due to blasting.	N.A.
11.	Punjab National	25. Wypatla.	5th January,	N.A.	N.A.

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank		Name of Branch	Date of occurence	Nature of incident/ damage incurred	Estimated loss
1	2		3	4	5	6
12.	Andhra Bank	26.	Jatprole Peddamprur, Distt. Mahaboobnagar.	24th April, 1991	Damage due to burning.	N.A.
13.	State Bank of Hyderabad	27.	Muthyampet, Adilabad Distt.	14/15th May, 1991	Furniture and Stationery burnt.	Estimated loss of Rs. 6960/-
		28.	Ramai, Adilabad Distt.	24th August, 1991	Stationery and dead stock.	Estimated loss of Rs. 75,000/- (approx.)